GOVERNMENT OF ANDHRA PRADESH
ABSTRACT

ELECTORAL ROLLS – Special Summary Revision of Photo Electoral Rolls with reference to 01.01.2018 as the qualifying date – Filling up of vacant posts and ban on transfers and postings of key Government officials connected with Revision of Rolls – Orders - Issued

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GENERAL ADMINISTRATION (ELECTIONS.A) DEPARTMENT

G.O.Rt.No. **Dated:1st March, 2018.**

Read the following:-

1) From the ECI Lr.No. 23/LET/ECI/FUNC/ERD-ER/2017(Vol.III), Dt.23.8.2017.
2) From the E.C.I. D.O Lr. No. 434/1/LET/ECI/FUNC/ERD-ER/2017, Dt.25.8.2017.
3) G.O.Rt.No.2080, G.A.(Elecs.A) Dept., dt.16.09.2017
4) From the ECI Letter No.23 /ECI / TERR/SOU-AP& TEL /2018, Dt. 22.1.2018

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O R D E R:

The Election Commission has announced the Special Summary Revision of Electoral Rolls, 2018 and a schedule has been fixed for taking up the SSR, 2018 with the date of draft publication on 1.11.2017. Accordingly, in G.O.Rt.No.2080, G.A.(Elecs.A) Dept., dt.16.09.2017, ban on transfers and postings of key Government officials connected with the Revision of Photo Electoral Rolls, 2018 has been imposed till the NVD, 2018 on 25.01.2018 from the date of draft publication i.e. 1.11.2017.

2. The draft publication has not been made as scheduled due to non-receipt of approval from the Election Commission of India for polling stations proposals. Now, the Election Commission of India has approved the revised schedule for Special Summary Revision of Electoral Rolls, 2018 in all Assembly Constituencies of Andhra Pradesh. According to which, draft publication shall be made on 23.1.2018 and final electoral rolls shall be published on 24.3.2018.

3. The prime objective of the revision is to produce up to date and accurate photo electoral rolls with the cooperation and involvement of the electors, political parties, rural and urban local bodies, NGOs etc. This exercise requires a massive effort on the part of the electoral authorities in the State and this cannot be completed without strengthening them with adequate staff. All vacant posts related to revision of rolls i.e., Electoral Registration Officers/Assistant Electoral Registration Officers / Supervisors / Booth Level Officers shall, therefore, be filled up immediately.

(P.T.O)

4. The existing provisions of the Representation of the People Act, 1950 stipulates that any officer or staff employed in connection with the preparation, revision and correction of the Electoral Rolls shall be deemed to be on deputation to the Election Commission for the period during which they are so employed and such officer and staff shall, during that period, be subject to the control, superintendence and discipline of the Election Commission. Any transfer of key officials during the period of revision will adversely affect the work and the quality of revision process. The entire revision process has to be done in a prefixed time schedule. The gigantic work involves meticulous planning, professional management, close supervision as well as monitoring and discussion with stake holders including political parties, RWAs/NGOs etc. It is, therefore, necessary that during the aforesaid period, the transfer of any officer engaged in this exercise should be avoided.

5. The ECI in the letter 2nd read above, has requested to ensure that all existing vacancies of posts related to electoral rolls work like AEROs, EROs and DEOs, if any, should be filled up immediately and directed that no officials connected with the exercise of revision of electoral rolls like the DEOs, Dy. DEOs, the EROs, the AEROs, Supervisors and BLOs should be transferred from their places of posting without the prior concurrence of the Election Commission during the period of Special Summary Revision in the State.

6. In view of the above, it is necessary that key officials connected with the exercise of preparation of Photo Electoral Rolls like District Election Officers [all Collectors], the Electoral Registration Officers (Sub-Collectors/Revenue Divisional Officers/ Deputy Collectors/ Joint Collectors-II / Municipal Commissioners / Addl. Municipal Commissioners of certain Municipal Corporations), the Assistant Electoral Registration Officers (all Tahsildars / Municipal Commissioners), Supervisors and Booth Level Officers should not be disturbed from their places of posting without prior concurrence of the Election Commission from 23.01.2018 i.e., date of draft publication to 24.03.2018 i.e. date of final publication of electoral rolls.

7. The District Revenue Officers at district level are playing key role in preparation of electoral roll and supervising the preparation of rolls and conducting meetings with the field level authorities. They also act as Coordinating Officers for attending to preparation of photo electoral rolls and issue of EPICs.

8. Further, in order to strengthen the functioning of the Electoral Registration Authorities, it is necessary to fill up all the vacant posts, if any, of the categories mentioned in paras 4 & 5 above connected with the preparation of photo electoral rolls.

(Contd..)

9. No officer/officials should be associated with the work relating to or connected with, revision of electoral rolls (i) against whom the Commission has recommended any disciplinary action and the same is pending, or (ii) to whom major penalty has been given as a result of said disciplinary proceeding, or (ii) against whom a serious criminal case is pending in any court of law, or (iv) who was transferred out during any previous revision of rolls or conduct of elections for inefficiency or willfully violating the ECI directions.

10. Accordingly, while cancelling the orders issued in the G.O. third read above, the Government hereby order that all officials connected with the preparation of photo electoral rolls of Assembly Constituencies i.e. all District Election Officers viz., all District Collectors, District Revenue Officers, Electoral Registration Officers (all Sub-Collectors/Revenue Divisional Officers/ Deputy Collectors / Joint Collectors-II / Municipal Commissioners / Addl. Municipal Commissioners of certain Municipal Corporations), Assistant Electoral Registration Officers (Tahsildars / Municipal Commissioners), Supervisors, VROs/VRAs, Panchayat Secretaries and other officials appointed as Booth Level Officers and District Revenue Officers (Coordinating Officers), should not be disturbed from their place of posting without prior concurrence of the Election Commission of India from 23.01.2018 to 24.03.2018.

11. In case, it becomes absolutely necessary to make any transfer of the above key election officers connected with the revision of photo electoral rolls or there is any need for shifting of officers due to their promotion etc., the Election Commission would consider the same on merits on case to case basis. Proposal should be sent to Commission through the Chief Electoral Officer giving details and full justification for the same. However, all transfers arising out of regular promotions of probationers (AIS as well as SCS) have been kept out of the purview of the ban on transfers during the revision process. In the implementation of these orders, wherever any officer needs to be posted in place of an officer who is to be transferred, the Commission / Chief Electoral Officer shall invariably be consulted while posting the substitute officer.

12. The authorities noted in the address entry (General Administration, Revenue, Municipal Administration and Panchayat Raj Departments) shall fill up all the vacant posts, if any, of the officials who are acting as District Election Officers (Collectors), Electoral Registration Officers (Sub-Collectors / Revenue Divisional Officers / Deputy Collectors / Joint Collectors-II / Municipal Commissioners / Addl. Municipal Commissioners of certain Municipal Corporations), Assistant Electoral Registration Officers (Tahsildars / Municipal Commissioners) immediately and furnish a certificate that all posts of officers related to the work of roll revision are filled up and that no such post is left vacant.

(P.T.O)

13. The Collectors & District Election Officers shall take further necessary action in the matter on top priority in consultation with the administrative departments concerned and ensure that all vacant posts of key election officers are filled up one week before the draft publication and report any unfilled vacancies by 23.01.2018

(BY ORDER AND IN THE NAME OF THE GOVERNOR OF ANDHRA PRADESH)

DINESH KUMAR
CHIEF SECTRETARY TO GOVERNMENT

To
The General Administration (SPl. A) Department
The General Administration (OP) Department
The General Administration (SC) Department
The Revenue (Services) Department
The Panchayat Raj & Rural Development Department
The Municipal Administration & Urban Development Department
The Chief Commissioner of Land Administration, A.P.
The Commissioner, Panchayat Raj Department, A.P.
The Commissioner & Director, Municipal Administration Department, A.P.
All Collectors & District Election Officers

Copy to:

All Departments of Secretariat.
All Officers & Sections in G.A. (Elections) Department.
SF/SCs

// FORWARDED:: BY ORDER //

SECTION OFFICER